

REMARKS

Claims 2-5 and 8-15 are pending in the application. Claims 4, 7-9, 11, 14 and 15 have been amended. Claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Independent claims 4, 11, 14 and 15 have been amended to incorporate the language of canceled claim 6. Dependent claims 7-9 have been amended to change their dependency to amended claim 4 from canceled claim 6.

The final Office Action rejects claims 2-7 and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Lipner. This rejection is moot as to claim 6, which has been canceled.

This rejection is respectfully traversed for the same reasons set forth in the arguments presented in the Response to Non-final Office Action filed on January 22, 2007, which arguments are incorporated herein in their entirety.

Amended claim 4 recites:

“said table view comprising:

- a plurality of outputs of a selected step of at least one of said sequential control modules, wherein said outputs comprise a combination of at least one automatic expression and at least one interactive instruction,

- a summary area that provides a name of said sequential control module and a list of steps in said sequential control module, wherein said selected step is selected from said list,

- a details area that provides a step name and a step description for said selected step, and

- a parameters area that provides a current value of at least one parameter associated with said selected step”.

In paragraph 8 at page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner reads the “summary area” on Lipner’s area 49, the “details area” on Lipner’s area 65 and the “parameters area” on Lipner’s area 67. The Examiner reads the “sequential control module” on Lipner’s procedure A. However, Lipner’s area 49 does not include a list of steps of procedure A as recited in amended independent claim 4.

Lipner at column 5, lines 62 and 63, describes area 65 as where the “current procedure step is displayed”. Lipner describes that screen 47 displays a list of steps 3-9 of procedure A. Lipner describes that step 6 in detail area 65 is the step currently up for execution. Lipner does not in any way describe that the current step 6 is selected from the list of displayed steps 3-9. Lipner merely displays steps 3-9 with the current step being in details area 65. Lipner does not describe any selection by a user of step 6 in the Fig. 3 screen.

The Examiner in paragraph 6 at page 3 of the Office Action identifies the recited table view as Fig. 3, but does not identify what in Lipner constitutes “a plurality of outputs of a selected step of at least one of said sequential control modules”. The Examiner regards step 6 (Fig. 3) as a selected step. However, Lipner does not disclose that screen 47 displays a plurality of outputs of step 6, “wherein said outputs comprise a combination of at least one automatic expression and at least one interactive instruction”. In fact, step 6 merely instructs the user to “check conditions of operation”. This is a single manual instruction and not a plurality of outputs.

It is clear from the above discussion that Lipner lacks a “plurality of outputs”, a “summary area” and a “details area” and, therefore, does not anticipate amended independent claim 4.

The above discussion is also applicable to independent claims 11, 14 and 15, which have been amended similarly to amended independent claim 4. Therefore, Lipner does not anticipate amended independent claims 11, 14 and 15.

For the reason set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 2-5, 7 and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Lipner is obviated by the amendment and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claim 8 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over Lipner in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,775,576 to Spriggs, hereafter Spriggs.

This rejection is erroneous claim 8 depends on independent claim 4 via intervening claim 6. That is, Lipner lacks elements recited in independent claim 4 as set forth in the discussion of claim 4. These elements are not disclosed or taught by Spriggs, which was cited for a different reason.

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is obviated by the amendment and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 2-7 and 9-15 as anticipated by or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over Lipner in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,803,039 to Impink et al., hereafter Impink. This rejection is moot as to claim 6, which has been canceled.

This rejection is traversed. As to anticipation, it is assumed that the Examiner intended to state “anticipated by Lipner”. The anticipation by Lipner rejection has been obviated by the Amendment as discussed above.

In the anticipation discussion, it is noted that Lipner lacks a “plurality of outputs”, a “summary area” and a “details area”. Impink, which was cited for a different reason does not supply Lipner’s deficiencies. Therefore, amended independent claims 4, 11, 12 and 14 are unobvious in view of the combination of Lipner and Impink.

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 2-5, 7 and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is obviated by the amendment and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claim 8 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over Lipner in view of Impink and further in view of Spriggs.

This rejection is obviated by the amendment. Amended claim 8 depends on independent claim 4. That is, Lipner lacks elements recited in independent claim 4 as set forth in the discussion of claim 4. These elements are not disclosed or taught by Spriggs, which was cited for a different reason.

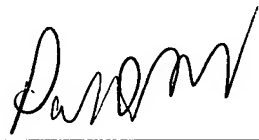
For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is obviated by the amendment and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action cites a number of patents that were not applied in the rejections of the claims. These patents have been reviewed, but are believed to be inapplicable to the claims.

It is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth above that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn, that claims 2-5 and 7-15 be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

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